

THE CRIMEAN WAR

1853-1856

[CAUSES...]

Russia wanted to extend her influence over the Ottoman Empire

Russia protected the Orthodox Christians

France had protective oversight of Roman Catholics

Russia was irked that in 1851, the sultan had given control of some holy places in Palestine to Roman Catholics

Russia wanted Moldavia and Wallachia

OTTOMAN EMPIRE



SUMMER 1853

- Russia used her right to protect the Orthodox Christians as pretext to occupy Moldavia and Wallachia



WHAT WERE THE ISSUES?

- The weakness of the Ottoman Empire...
- Russia expected to extend her influence...
- France and Britain opposed Russian expansion
- Napoleon III hoped an activist foreign policy would create domestic support for his regime

AUTUMN 1853...THE OTTOMANS DECLARED WAR ON RUSSIA



Battle of Sinope

30 November 1853

- Russian warships destroyed a squadron of Ottoman frigates
- Heavy Ottoman casualties

– Ivan Aivazovsky "The Battle of Sinope"



MARCH 28, 1854...FRANCE AND BRITAIN DECLARED WAR ON RUSSIA

- Austria and Prussia remained neutral
- Austria had her own ambitions in the Balkans
- Prussia followed Austria's lead
- Russia ignored an ultimatum to withdraw from the "Danubian Principalities"...

HOW INEPT COULD THE COMBATANTS BE???

- ❑ Ill equipped and poorly commanded...
- ❑ Military and logistical incompetence on both sides
- ❑ Armies bogged down along the Crimean coast
- ❑ 1st war to be photographed

Siege of Sevastopol 1854...city captured in September 1855



The siege of Sevastopol



“...into the valley of death rode the six
hundred...”



British and French troops in camp



Interior of Redan after its abandonment by the Russians



French Zouaves in camp



French repel the Russians...August 1855

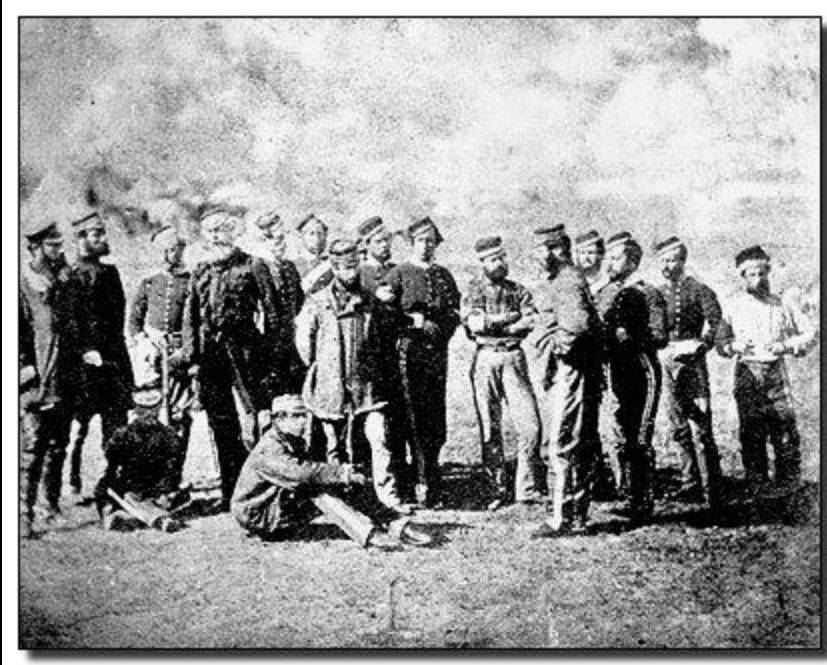


French troops outside of Sevastopol...early winter 1855

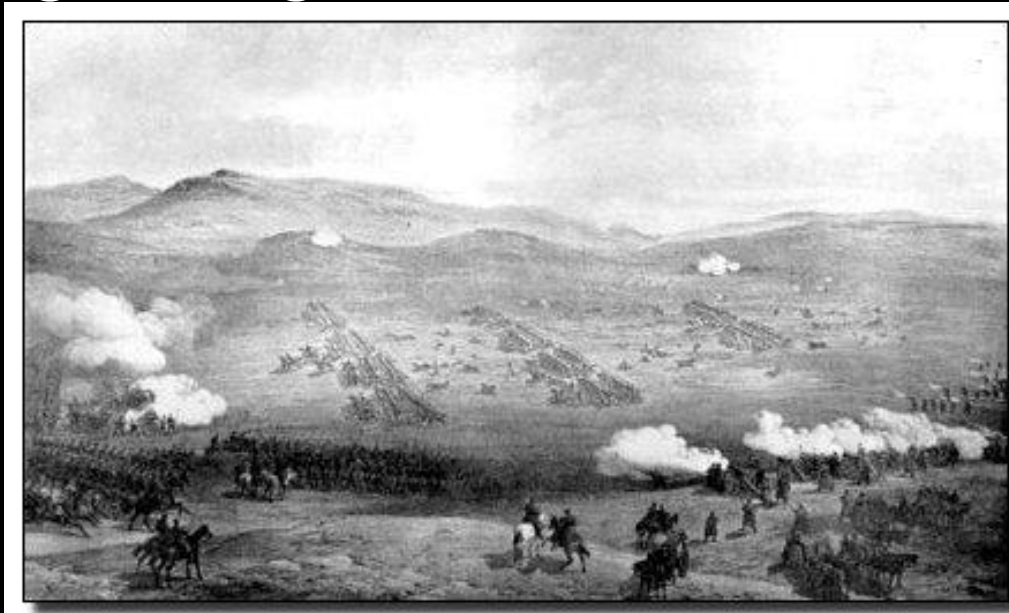


Piedmont-Sardinia had to get her two cents in also....





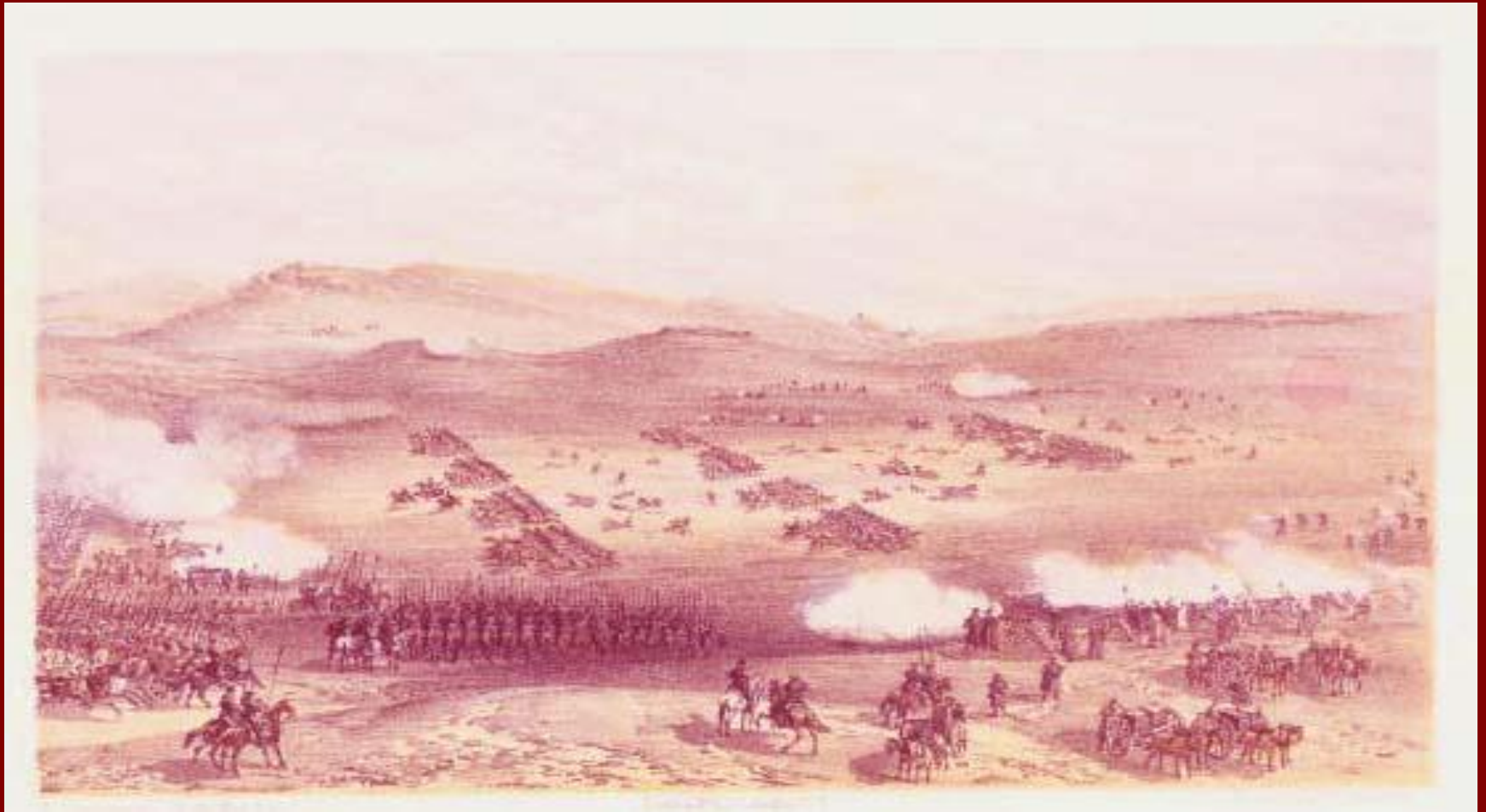
- The Light Brigade...



...the valley of death...



Charge of the Light Brigade...battle of Balaclava



Florence Nightengale, the “lady with the lamp”





RESULTS OF THE WAR

- Treaty of Paris, March 1856
 - Russia surrendered territory at mouth of the Danube
 - Neutrality of Black Sea
 - Renounce claims of protection of Christians in Ottoman Empire
- Image of an invincible Russia was shattered
- Concert of Europe was moribund
- Napoleon III had no respect for the congress of Vienna
- Austria tried to assert more influence in German affairs
- Prussia unwilling to be subordinate to Austria
- Mediocre showing of British military might

WHAT CHANGED???

- Modern naval mining
- Work of women as army nurses...modern sanitation and nursing methods
- Use of ambulances for the 1st time
- 1st tactical use of railways
- Use of the telegraph
- 1st modern war
 - Trenches
 - Blind artillery fire
 - Minié balls and rifling of barrels
- “paper cigars”...cigarettes introduced to French and British troops who copied their Turkish allies